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Lilith

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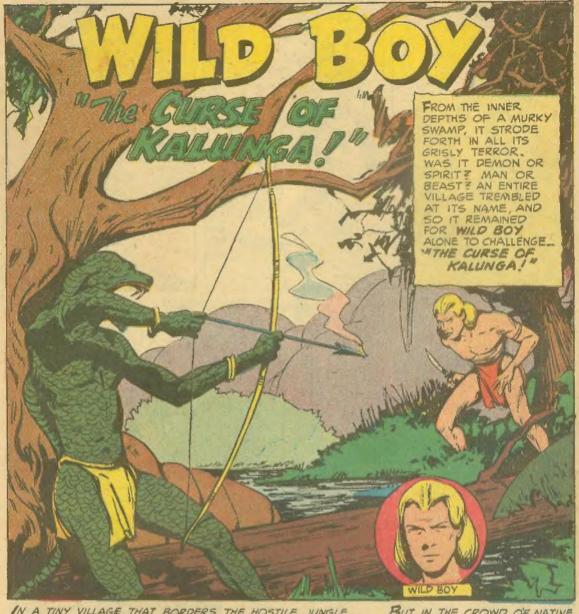


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IN A TINY VILLAGE THAT BORDERS THE HOSTILE JUNGLE, IN A TINY VILLAGE THAT BORDERS THE HOSTILE JURGET, ONLOOKERS ... I SHOULD



BUT IN THE CROWD OF NATIVE

















BE WARY,



IT IS ALSO SAID THAT
IF A MAN ASKS FOR
KALUNGA'S HELP, AND
HE BE IN THE RIGHT—
THEN KALUNGA WILL
HELP! BUT IF HE IS
WRONG, THEN HE
WILL BE CURSED
BY THE DEMON!



IF WHAT YOU SAY
IS TRUE, KEETO, WHY
WOULD WAGAB! ASK
FOR HELP -- WHEN HE
KNOWS THAT HE HAS
DONE WRONG?

THOUGHT OF THAT,
TOO, WILD BOY,
BUT IT IS SOME.
THING THAT ONLY
KALUNGA CAN
DECIDE!

SEVERAL
DAYS
LATER,
AS TWO
NATIVES
SEARCH
THE SWAMP
FOR GAME,
A SUDDEN
SOUND
FILLS THEM
WITH
TREMBLING
FEAR...

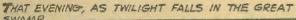


















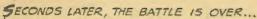




AND FROM THEIR PROTECTIVE COVER, CHIEF NEDRU AND HIS WARRIORS LOOK ON WITH AMAZEMENT...











SPARE ME, NEDRU! I WILL DO ALL YOU SAY! MERCY, NEDRU,

NO! YOU SHALL PAY / FOR THIS EVIL! SEIZE HIM, WARRIORS! TEAR OFF HIS EVIL MASK!

NEDRU!

TORN FREE ...

BUT WHEN THE MASK IS

HIS FACE



WAIT! DO NOT FOLLOW!

WAGABI NOW BELONGS

MERCY!

TIME PASSES, WITH EACH PASSING MONTH THE SET OF WAGABI'S SERPENTINE FACE DEEPENS: AND WHENEVER THE MOON IS FULL, HIS AGONIZING CRY RINGS MOURNFULLY THROUGH THE BROODING JUNGLE NIGHT. A GRIM REMINDER TO THOSE WHO WOULD PLOT EVIL!





# WILD BOY MAN-EATTER

REX CUTLER HUNTED WITH A CAMERA. HE FACED COUNTLESS HAZARDS AND RISKED DEATH EVERY DAY TO GET THE ONLY TROPHIES THAT MATTERED TO HIM — FINE PICTURES OF WILD BEASTS. OUR STORY OPENS IN BWAMALI TERRITORY, WE SEE CUTLER AND HIS CAMERAMAN AS THEY FOCUS ON A HULKING RHIND FROM BEHIND AN IMPROVISED BLIND NEAR A WATER HOLE...







SUDDENLY, A DEADLY SWISH OF SPEARS INTERRUPTS THE SAVAGE, NO-QUARTER BATTLE ...











THE SHOT BRINGS WILD BOY TO THE SCENE







AS EVEN NG FALLS ON THE QUET BUAMALI VILLAGE .





AS THE SMALL CARAVAN LEAVES ...





































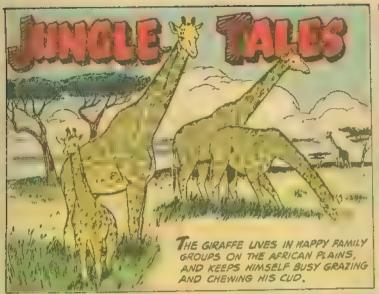






WHEN WILD BOY EXPLAINS HOW REX AND HIS MEN LED HIM TO LOOHA'S LAIR ...

NO! IT IS WE WHO WHITE BROTHERS I WAS WRONG NOT ARE INDEBTED TO YOU! MANY BRING DEATH TO THE JUNGLE! TO TRUST YOU - I ALLOWED MY MIND TO BE POISONED BUT YOU HAVE GIVEN THE BWAMALI A NEW AGAINST YOU, BUT HEREAFTER I SHALL LIFE! YOU HAVE TAKE MY OWN THREAT TO THEIR CHIEF SHOULD SAFETY! 00! AGAIN WE ARE NOEBTED TO YOU, WILD BOY THE END



THE GIRAFFES STAY PRETTY MUCH TOGETHER, AND THIS YOUNG GIRAFFE, WHOM WE'LL CALL "JUNIOR; HAS NEVER BEEN AWAY FROM THE HERD, IN FACT, ASIDE FROM SOME FIELD RODENTS, HE HAS NEVER SEEN OTHER ANIMALS!





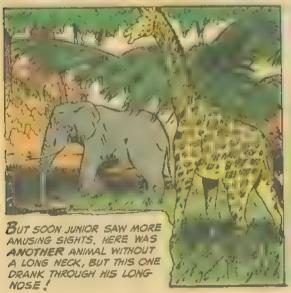
ONE DAY, JUNIOR BECAME SEPARATED FROM THE HERD AND WANDERED OFF INTO THE JUNGLE TO SEE THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD AROUND HIM.



WHEN JUNIOR FIRST SAW THE LEOPARD HE WAS CURIOUS, HE STARED AND THEN LAUGHED OUT LOUD. FOR THE LEOPARD HAD NO LONG NECK!



THE LEOPARD, HOWEVER, DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING TO LAUGH ABOUT, AND HE GROWLED AT JUNIOR SO FIERCELY THAT THE YOUNG GIRAFFE RAN OFF.









WEREN'T PECULIAR -- HE WAS! HIS NECK LOOKED AWKWARD AND FUNNY.

WHEN THE NEXT ANIMAL, A
WILD BOAR, APPROACHED THE
WATER HOLE, JUNIOR TIMIDLY
STEPPED OUT. THE BOAR MAPE
NO MOVE TO ATTACK, JUNIOR
HAD FOUND A FRIEND.







SUDDENLY, JUNIOR'S FEET GOT ALL TWISTED UP IN SOME VINES AND HE WENT DOWN WITH A CRASH. THE LION CAME CLOSER.





THEY HAD ESCAPED, BUT JUNIOR WAS BAD. HE WAS SO AWKWARD HE COULDN'T EVEN SAVE HIMSELF IN THE JUNGLE. SOON, THE BOAR WENT OFF LOOKING FOR FOOD.

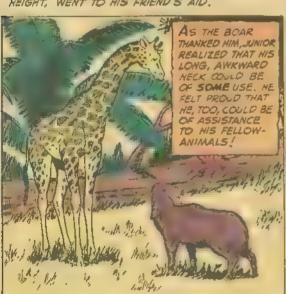






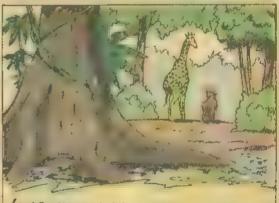


THE TRAPPED BOAR FRANTICALLY PLEADED FOR HELP AND JUNIOR, STRETCHING UP TO HIS FULL HEIGHT, WENT TO HIS FRIEND'S AID.



GNAWING AWAY AT THE LEATHER THONG, JUNIOR BY CLEAN THROUGH IT, AND HIS FRIEND DROPPED TO THE GROUND.





JUNIOR REALIZED THAT ALL ANIMALS WERE BUILT DIFFERENTLY TO ENABLE THEM TO LIVE IN THEIR OWN MABITAT, AND WHILE HE WAS DIFFERENT, HE NO LONGER FELT RIDICULOUS! NOW, ON AN EQUAL FOOTING WITH HIS FRIEND, JUNIOR AND THE BOAR WENT OFF INTO THE JUNGLE LOOKING FOR NEW ADVENTURES.

## 7he Bird-Man Legend

"is the well-known IT! Pretty soon I'm going to find out how it feels to die in a plane crash!"

Al sar perfectly relaxed and calm in the cockpit of his tiny Piper Cub plane. His calmness was not heroism; it wasn't even the phoney kind of heroism that many people put on when they don't want to admit, even to themselves, how frightened they are. It was, rather, a sort of calm acceptance of whatever fate was in store for him, the attitude which had been bred in him, and all the other boys he had flown with in the terrible days when Eisenhower had battled to establish a safe beachhead on the narrow shores of Europe.

Al knew he had done everything possible to help himself—and he also knew that it wouldn't work. It was pretty ironical, at that, to come out of five years of daily danger with the Eagle Squadron of the RAF and then with the USAAF, to wind up dead on his first easy civilian job of exploring the back stretches of the Amazon Valley. But it was just one of those things, he thought, as he shrugged his shoulders philosophically.

He stared ahead of him, through the small cockpit of the plane. There, a couple of miles away, clearly visible through the clear morning air, he could see safety, as represented by the smooth plateaus on the other side of the tremendous chasm which separated him from them. If he could only reach that side of the chasm, everything would be fine. First of all, it was smooth and even, and he could set his plane down in comparative comfort. Then, and more important, Al knew that a few miles down from his present location, there was a fairly good path that led down the thousand-foot side of the cliff, and once on the floor of the chasm, he'd be less than ten miles from base camp

Automatically, Al yanked back the joy-stick of the plane as far as he could, to keep the little ship as high as possible. As he did this, he sensed that it wouldn't help. He had lost too much altitude, and he would be sure to crash on this side of the



chasm, in the dense, thickly-wooded forests which lined the cliff right up to its very edge. Methodically, he unloaded the camera which he had been using to get shots for the aerial map, and stowed the metal-cased rolls of film in his pockets. At least, if they ever located his body, maybe the photos would be of some use!

Suddenly Al's eyes narrowed sharply. Out of one corner of his vision, he had seen two things which gave a quick lift to his sinking hopes. There, a trifle north, was a narrow rope-and-vine bridge over the quarter-mile-wide chasm, which meant that there must be human beings living somewhere in the neighborhood; and also, he had caught sight of a tiny clearing near the approach to the bridge.

Al yanked savagely at the rudder, and the Piper Cub veered north. Maybe he could make it, after all! If he could only set the ship down without smashing himself into atoms, he could get across to the other side of the chasm, and he'd be okay! For a few minutes Al fought the cross-currents which twisted up from the wooded region, handling his motorless ship as though it were a glider. And, as he slipped and swirled downward in a glide he knew he would make it!

As he approached the cleared spot, his sensitive fingers holding the end of the joystick alert for any slight adjustment, a sudden updraft flung his ship fifty feet into the air, and dropped the plane like a dead weight toward the ground. Al's last conscious recollection was of the lush green grass and towering trees, which seemed to rush up at his face with the force of an express train. Then everything disappeared in a blinding collision, as he hit the ground and the tiny plane splintered into a mass of twisted metal

When Al Bronson regained consciousness, his first thought was that he was pretty cramped. When he shifted his shoulders to ease the pressure of his flying suit and the parachute pack on his back, the tension increased, and he found himself trussed up like a package, his hands bound tightly with strong wines which circled his waist and were knotted further to restrict his movements.

Al struggled to his feet, to find himself surrounded by a grim-faced circle of ominously quiet, almost naked natives, each staring unblinkingly at him and each carrying a wicked-looking spear in the right hand and an equally wicked-looking machete in the left. He fought down the quick fear which welled up within him, and forced his voice to be reasonably calm as he tried the few words of Spanish which he knew, to explain that he was a friend and wanted help.

Silence greeted his speech, and Al realized with a sinking heart that if the natives spoke any language besides their own dialect, it would be Portuguese, the language of Brazil, of which he didn't know a single word!

He struggled to free his hands, hoping to be able to utilize some kind of sign language. With a gesture of contempt, the tallest of the natives stepped forward, slashed downward with his razor-

sharp machete, and Al's hands were free. Al grinned in his friendliest way at his liberator, but in that second his hopes died, as the native spoke. The words were thick pidgin English, but their meaning was clear.

"You bird-man," the native grunted. "You white man. Me work white man. Me learn speak white man talk, Indian hate white man. White man bring trouble. Indian kill white man. Then trouble go. Come. You see."

The leader grunted a command and in a second Al was seized by both arms and hustled toward the edge of the high cliff.

With a complete indifference to the vertigo which overwhelmed Al Bronson, as he hung over the steep edge, held by the iron grip of two warriors, the native leader barked another command, and one of his men darted into the underbrush, to return a moment later with three wristwatches, which the chief took and held out for Al to see.

"We take white man magic. Then we kill," the native said calmly. "Like this." He made a swinging gesture with his two arms, indicating clearly the act of throwing something over the edge of the cliff to the floor of the chasm a thousand feet below!

At the chief's next command, the two warriors holding Al loosened their grip of his arms, grabbed his left wrist and stripped off the watch which was strapped there. His arms freed, for a brief fraction of a second, Al found a sudden inspiration! He smacked his right arm down against the open flap pocket on his pants leg, grabbed the magnesium flare which he held there for photos at night or in fog, and all in the same gesture dashed it violently to the ground!

As the flare blazed forth in a terrific spurt of furious fire, Al seized the brief second, in which the natives jumped back in alarm, to sprint at top speed for the narrow, swinging rope bridge which he could see less than a hundred yards away. In his heart he knew the gesture was futile; he was handicapped by his heavy clothes and parachute pack, while the practically-naked natives could certainly move faster than he. But the driving urge for self-preservation forced him on, in spite of his bursting lungs, and before the startled fiatives could recover enough to speed after him, Al had made the bridge and was crawling out along

its swaying, sagging length!

Al worked his way out along the crude chasm crossing, conscious of added vibrations as the natives started to cross the bridge.

Then he heard a booming voice, yelling in native dialect, and over his shoulder Al saw the natives on the rope bridge turn and scuttle back to the edge of the cliff. As he continued across, wondering at the change in his enemies' plan, the leader's booming voice came again. "White man, you die!"

Al froze, to immobility and stared as two native warriors, who had just been waiting for their fellows to reach safety, chopped their heavy machetes down on the vines holding the bridge! The entire bridge shook under the impact of the savage thrusts and suddenly free, it dropped like a stone, flinging Al Bronson into the void!

As he dropped, Al's instinctive recollection of years of training came to the fore. Without any conscious realization of what he was doing, his fingers reached up to his breast and yanked at the rio-cord of his parachute!

As the huge nylon sheet opened and caught the wind it fluttered aloft like a giant flower with Al Bronson swinging easily in the harness. Down to the safety of the chasm floor, which would lead him back to his own camp, he drifted. Then Al glanced upward to see the awe-filled, superstitious natives on their knees at the edge of the cliff, salaaming in terror of the white birdman who could sprout his own wings and fly off to safetyl

## The RIVER OF ALLAH

LAGOS, STEAMING WEST AFRICAN COAST TOWN AND CAPITAL OF BRITISH NIGER A, MECCA OF WANDERERS FROM ALL THE CONTINENTS AND THE SEVEN SEAS! AND HERE JOE BARTON MEETS A STRANGE, FANATICAL MAN WHO LEADS HIM INTO THE DARK INTERIOR IN SEARCH OF A LOST AND ANCIENT GLORY, THE LEGENDARY...

"RIVER OF ALLAH!"



IN THE "EXPLORER'S CLUB!" A SHABBY CAFE IN THE HEART OF LAGOS. JOE "DINES" WITH HIS NEW-FOUND FRIEND, BARNEY BREWSTER ...







AND ALL BECAUSE ALLAH MADE A GREAT RIVER FLOW THROUGH THE LAND' BUT THEN WE ARABS BECAME WICKED' ALLAH FROWNED, AND CLOSED OFF THE RIVER, MAKING THE SAHARA A BARREN AND UNKIND DESERT!



BUT THAT RIVER STILL LIVES IN THE NORTHERN MOUNTAINS TRAPPED IN THE EARTH AND WAITING TO BE RELEASED TO MAKE THE SAHARA BLOOM ONLE MORE 'I MAHOMET BEN ALL, AM DESTINED TO FIND IT...

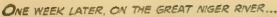


HE'S LOONY! THAT OLD
LEGEND HAS BEEN THE
DEATH OF MANY A
LIKELY LAD!

THE RIVER OF
ALLAH! I'VE HEARD
OF T BARNEY
MAYBE HES NOT SO
LOONEY AT THAT!









#### SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AT DAWN ...



MOLO, PON'T LET THEM BOARD! USE THE POLES TO KEEP THEM! BARNEY, TRY TO HIT THEIR STEERSMAN!



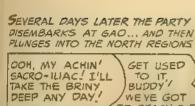


STEADILY, THE PIRATE DHOW





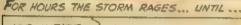
















FOR PAYS THE EXPEDITION PUSHES ON ...



AT LAST EVEN THE TRUCK MUST BE ABANDONED.



















LATER, ON THE MOUNTAIN



WELL I GUESS THAT'S WHERE S

BWANA JOE! I SEE THIS BEN ALI FELLER DAM! C'MON! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM! CAVE WITH STICKS!

A FEW MINUTES LATER ... WHY, THAT HES GOING







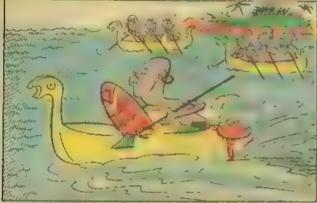














"THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR TEACHING THEM HOW TO PLAY DICE!"





IN THE SHADOWED JUNGLE, EACH SOUND HAS A SPECIAL MEANING FOR THE PRIMITIVE EAR. WILD BOY IS SUDDENLY ALERTED BY THE DULL BOOM OF A DRUM. ITS SOUND ECHOES DANGER, BUT WILD BOY DOESN'T KNOW YET THAT ITS SUMMONS WILL SEND HIM ON A STRANGE AND DANGEROUS JOURNEY...

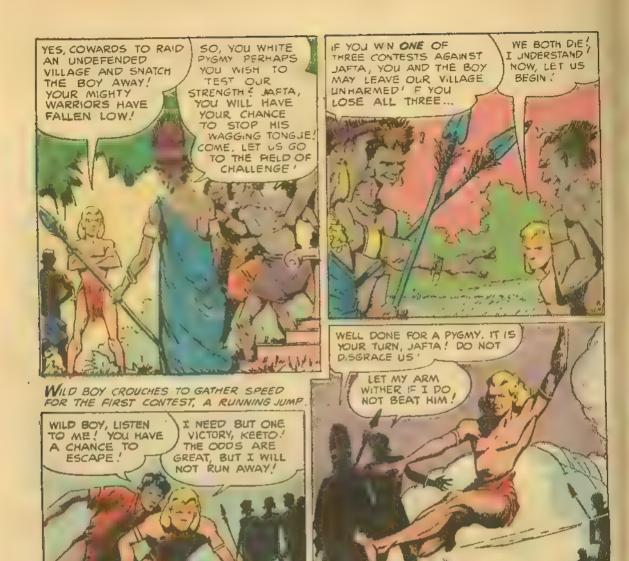


MOMENTS LATER, WILD BOY APPEARS BEFORE JABBURI, THE TR BAL CHIEF...





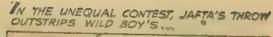








WILD BOY THROWS WITH EVERY OUNCE OF STRENGTH IN HIS BODY...





















YOU ARE WRONG TO

UNABLE TO KILL A DEFENSELESS MAN, WILD BOY RISES, BUT KING BAALU VENTS HIS FURY...



BANISH JAFTA KING
BAALU! IT IS NO
DISGRACE WHEN
ONE DOES H 5 BEST
AND LOSES!

WAY OF LIFE,
WILD BOY! TAKE
THE BOY AND
GO!

THIS IS OUR

AS WILD BOY AND KEETO LEAVE THE WATUSSI VILLAGE!



A WATER BUFFALO! THE MOST DANGEROUS BEAST N THE JUNGLE, AND JAFTA ATTACKS IT UNARMED! WE MUST HELP, DARO!







GRRRRRR!



AGAIN AND AGAIN WILD BOY'S KNIFE PLUNGES HOME UNTIL THE BEAST WEAKENS...



WILD BOY, YOU HAVE TAUGHT
MY TRIBE A LESSON BRAVERY
DOES NOT DEPEND UPON
GREAT SIZE OR STRENGTH
ALONE, FOR IT LIES IN
THE HEART!





MOMENTS LATER ... GIVE THIS SHIELD
TO JABURRI AS MY PLEDGE
OF ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP! NEVER
AGAIN WILL THE WATUSSI
MOLEST A WEAKER TRIBE!







